METRO / A23

Patient in alleged botched penile enlargement: I can't be bought

NEWS / A2

Pope turns down invitation to visit RP this year

ACROSS / A19

Gov. Panlilio insists on anti-jueteng police chief in Pampanga

NEWS / A11

Jamby says foul play; Madrigal foundation robbed in aunt's will



A letter from Luli ...

THIS STATEMENT CONCERNS THE PHILIPPINE Daily Inquirer article . . . regarding the Asian Spirit fiasco on their delayed flights last May 1, which quotes an Asian Spirit employee stating that I took a helicopter after my flight on their airline was delayed for hours, and further purporting in a photo caption that I took a Presidential chopper.

As usual, PDI did not bother to check on the facts, and worse, maliciously implied

A LETTER/A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Saturday, May 10, 2008 ★★ Vol. 23 / No. 152 website: www.inquirer.net

GMA blames media, critics for rice crisis

By Michael Lim Ubac

BURGEONING POPULATIONS AND THE effects of climate change have been blamed for the rice crisis, but in President Macapagal-Arroyo's reckoning, the media and critics of governments worldwide should be added to the list of culprits.

In a speech delivered at a luncheon

GMA BLAMES/A4

UN stops aid to Burma

Says military gov't seized relief goods; US help still snubbed



HAPPY 338th BIRTHDAY, MAKATI A grand parade down Ayala Avenue on Friday officially opens the month-long celebration of Makati City's foundation day on June 1. The parade brings together award-winning dancers from the Dinagyang Festival of Iloilo and other local gov't units in a celebration inspired by its theme "Fiestaki!"

RANGOON, BURMA—THE United Nations yesterday suspended cyclone aid to Burma (Myanmar) after the military government seized food supplies flown into the country, a UN official said.

He says the World Food Program has no choice but to suspend the shipments until the matter is resolved.

WFP spokesperson Paul Risley said Friday that all "the food aid and equipment that we managed to get in has been confiscated."

The shipment included 38 tons of high-energy biscuits.

Risley said it was not clear why the material was seized.

Earlier Friday, the United Nations blasted Burma's military government, saying its refusal to let in foreign aid workers to help victims of a devastating cyclone was "unprecedented" in the history of humanitarian work.

On Thursday, the United States said it was mulling dropping food and aid into Burma and did not rule out doing so without approval from the ruling junta.

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner suggested the international community should force Burma's secretive authorities, who are under heavy US sanctions, to accept outside help.

UN STOPS/A12

ERC: Napocor over-recovered ₱10B in costs

By Ronnel W. Domingo and Abigail L. Ho

THE NATIONAL POWER CORP. OVERcharged its customers ₱10 billion, representing over-recoveries, after the state-owned power generator failed to pass on to its customers the recovery of generation and forex-related costs since July 2006, the Energy Regulatory Commission said yesterday.

In a show-cause order dated May 7, the ERC directed Napocor to explain why it failed to file applications for the generation rate adjustment mechanism (GRAM) and the incremental currency exchange rate adjustment (Icera) from July 2006 to March 2008.

ERC's approval of the applications for the recovery of an estimated ₱10 billion in generation and forex-related costs would have meant a rate reduction of around 20 centavos per kilowatt-hour for Napocor customers.

Napocor has been given 15 days from

ERC/A18

US media: It's all over for Hillary

THE UNITED STATES MEDIA HAS ADministered the last rites to Hillary Clinton's White House campaign as Democratic elders coalesced behind Barack Obama, but the doughty former first lady vowed no surrender.

Editorialists predicted an imminent end to the party's bruising nominating epic, as a slew of headlines proclaimed Obama the Democrats' champion-elect for the November election against Republican John McCain.

"And the winner is . . ." said the cover of the new US edition of Time magazine, over a photograph of Obama with a million-watt smile.

"Over the Hill," blared the front

US MEDIA/A12

PDI 'Read-Along' a good read at 1 yr old



HAPPY FIRST Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye opens the photo exhibit with Research Department head Minerva Generalao featuring the 38 Read-Along sessions.

A TWO-DAY BOOKFAIR OF WELL-loved titles for children and young adults and a photo exhibit of celebrity readers and their audience kicked off the first year anniversary celebration of the Inquirer Read-Along program yesterday.

Publishing companies Scholastic, Vibal and Abiva brought to the Inquirer office in Makati City their newest and most popular titles of storybooks and activity books which are on sale until today at reduced prices (up to 70-percent discount). Also available are books for young adults, multimedia items, educational toys and reference books. The booksale is open to the public.

Capping the anniversary celebration is the Read-Along session set today at 10 a.m. at the Inquirer office. Celebrity mama Lani Mercado

PDI/A18

Human rights workers' lament: We're treated like enemies of state

By Jocelyn R. Uy

(Second of three parts)

-TEAM *Report*
Fernando del Mundo
Chief

THEY ARE NOT CRIMINALS, BUT their mug shots are on police and military files.

Some of them have been killed and their offices burned or raided and documents on political killings and disappearances stolen or destroyed.

Since the Armed Forces of the Philippines mounted in 2002 its latest campaign—dubbed "Oplan Bantay Laya," or operation plan freedom watch—against the 39-year-old communist insurgency, human rights workers have been treated as "enemies of state."

"We really don't understand why the military has trained their guns on us," says Marie Hilao-Enriquez, secretary general of Karapatan, an alliance of individuals and organizations working for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines.

"All we do is investigate and expose suspected killings and violations that are generated by their anti-insurgency campaign," says Enriquez, whose involvement in the initiative dates back to the Ferdinand Marcos dictatorship, which she blamed for the torture and killing of her sister at the outset of martial rule in 1972.

HUMAN/A10

Rare bird visitor found in Candaba Swamp

By Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—THE Candaba Swamp scored another record when Filipino and British conservationists found a black-browed reed warbler (Acrocephalus bistrigiceps) in Barangay Vizal San Pablo in Candaba, Pampanga, on April 27.

"It's the first Philippine record for

RARE BIRD/A4



1ST SIGHTING HERE The UK-based Wetland Trust and the Wild Bird Club of the Philippines spotted black-browed reed warbler, the first seen in the country.

Second FRONT PAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

Only small portion sold at rice auction

By Amy R. Remo

FILIPINO COMPANIES AND farmers' cooperatives offered to buy only 21,560 metric tons of rice from Thailand and China at yesterday's auction, the National Food Authority said.

Another tender

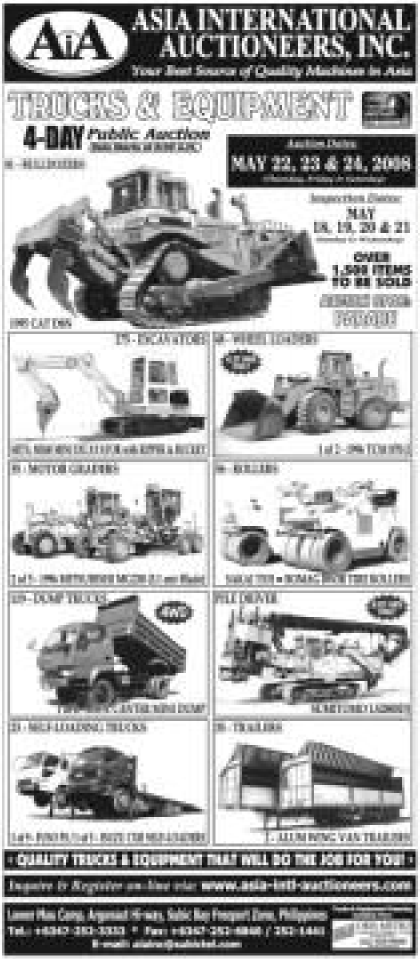
Tariff waived

'MAYBE NEXT TIME'

Pope turns down invite to visit RP



POPE BENEDICT XVI



Durano sues Barbers over PTA post



DA embarks on massive rice seeds production

Very interested

Aggressive buying

GMA blames media, critics for rice crisis

"Nat'l security stock"

Demand and supply

30-day stock

A letter from Luli ...

LULI M. ARROYO
May 5, 2008

Rare bird visitor found in Candaba Swamp, Pampanga

Streaked reed warbler

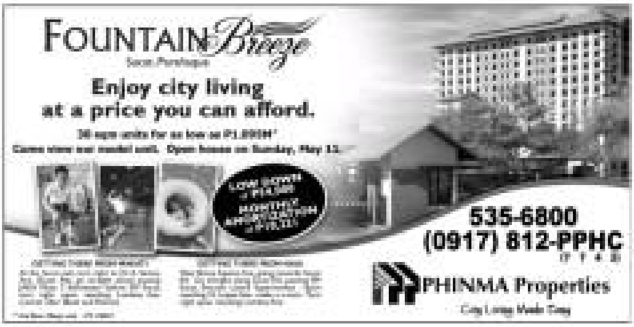
Last sighting

Don't burn

17,000 birds in 24 hours



Government Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health



Navy vice admiral lashes out at Locsin on 'independence' day



TOLENTINO: Free to speak



Court martial for Army general in extort case



Government Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health



Bill filed to scrap systems loss billing



Comelec closes automation deal for ARMM polls

Very, very reliable

Package deal



THE DAILY GOSPEL



Government Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health

3 business groups back lower rates, buck takeover

Ready and willing

Not the solution

More play

Transparency

ERC to Napocor: Explain over-recovery of ₱10B in costs

Adjustment mechanisms

Violations

Compliance

Rate decreases

PDI's 'Read-Along' a good read at one year old after 30 sessions

Discounts

Book drive

Initiative of Inquirer Research

Human rights workers' lament: We're treated like enemies of state

67% drop in killings

Missions blocked

Leftist political groups

Surviving in mainstream politics

Legal Left, armed Left

Leftists in Senate by 2010

Jamby says she's taking up cudgels for aunt's foundation

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

SEN. JAMBY MADRIGAL yesterday claimed that she was disputing the last will and testament of her late aunt, Consuelo "Chito" Madrigal-Collantes, not because she was left out of it but because the foundation named after her aunt and its thousands of beneficiaries had likewise been shut out.

In a statement a day after formally questioning her aunt's last will and testament in court, Madrigal likened the inheritance battle to a telenovela with its elements of "betrayal, wholesale fraud, and profitable lust."

"If she gave her whole estate to the foundation that would have been easier for everyone to accept. But the disinheritance of her own foundation was what made me open my eyes," said Madrigal who was interviewed during a TV interview where she expounded on her court battle over her aunt's fortune.

Children

The childless Collantes, who died last March 24, made her last will and testament in 2006 which left the bulk of her fortune to her husband, former Foreign Minister Manuel Collantes, Jamby's elder sister Susana, grandnephew Vicente Gomez Mauro, and niece Cirela M. Gonzalez-Montinola.

"The foundation named after Tita Chito was excluded from the will. Her most cherished causes, her very own foundation, was brushed aside. If my nephew Gustavo Mauro stood as the child of Tita Chito, the foundation is her other child," said Madrigal. "This is not about me and my cousins. It is about robbing the poor to enrich the rich, about betraying family for selfish personal gain."

She insisted that her fight for justice was for the poor families who benefited from the Consuelo Chito Madrigal Foundation. "Never in her life would she have signed on to such a callous document, in contempt of the feelings of not only her kin, but the causes she valued. If it turns out I am the recipient of any legacy from Tita Chito, I am making it of record that I would immediately turn over any such legacy to the Consuelo Madrigal Foundation, in full, and without any conditions," said Madrigal.

Her relatives claimed that Madrigal was excluded from the will because she got hers in advance in the form of a P100 million campaign contribution from her late aunt for her senatorial campaigns in 2001 and 2004.

But Madrigal clarified. "Tita Chito is a prudent businesswoman who will not throw away money that lightly. 100Mil for her is not a reason to gamble on one's fortune. The fact is, there is no campaign, not even for the presidency, where a contribution will give as much as P100 million. She did help me but she laid down clear rules on my spending and she only lent me what I needed. Why only a loan? So that it will be clear that politics is not just for lucks. If I lose, I am obliged to pay her."

Madrigal's lawyers claimed that Chito Madrigal's declared assets (clear will) were "grossly understated" and there were properties excluded from the will such as a $15 million apartment in New York City, paintings (including a Chagall, by various Filipino masters, and a sketch by Jose Rizal), a $3 million landscape jewelry and personal deposits in local and international banks.

"Conservatively, it has been said that the estate of Chito Madrigal was fixed eight million Filipino souls can, for two months, provide education to 200,000 scholars and build 40,000 classrooms," said Madrigal's lawyers.

US media: It's all over for Hillary

[illegible]

She ran fine race but lost

[illegible]

'Punditocracy'

[illegible]

Victory final by May 20

[illegible]

Nearly 300 superdelegates

[illegible]

Obama mobbed

[illegible]

Clinton as Obama's veep

[illegible]

'Dream ticket'

[illegible]

Brits throw away $19.9

[illegible]

Environmental impact

[illegible]

5-B worth of food–study

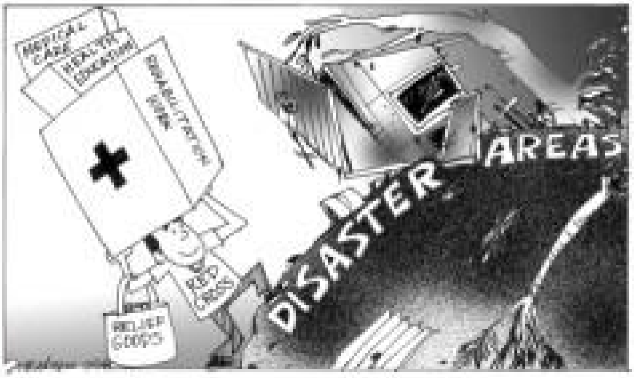


US stops . . .

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION

Bombing Meralco

EDITORIAL



Transparency and electricity

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

Two questions

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

The US polling scene

Social Climate



Mahar Mangahas

Custodians of wealth and power

Commentary

Cabinet revamp jokes

Between Deadlines



A letter

Young Blood

Phoebe

Notice to Youngblood contributors:

They Said

She'll kneel before GMA

'Very bad timing'

Food before a fishing lesson

Another 'insidious' contract

Wrong target

Embarrassing representative to ICJ

Mining also cause of RP's rice problem

Most competitive telecom provider



Walang "Tong-Pats" ang Generation Charge ng Meralco

Alam Nyo Ba Walang Pinapatong Na kahit Isang Sentimo Ang Meralco Sa Inyong Generation Charge?

Dito bumibili ang Meralco ng kuryente natin:

Private IPPs 51%	**28%**	**Sta. Rita**	**P4.16/Kwh**
	15%	**San Lorenzo**	**P4.17/Kwh**
	8%	**Quezon Power**	**P4.66/Kwh**
NAPOCOR 49%	**40%**	**NAPOCOR contract**	**P4.76/Kwh**
	9%	**NAPOCOR/WESM**	**P6.02/Kwh**

Generation costs only, for the 1st Quarter of 2008

Bakit nila pinapalabas na Meralco ang may sala sa mahal na presyo ng kuryente?

Ang NAPOCOR ang nagbebenta ng kuryente ng P6 - P9 per Kwh sa Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM).

Ang NAPOCOR ang may-ari at mayroong control ng 73% ng kuryente sa ating bansa.

(Source: ERC Resolution No. 4, series of 2008)

SINO KAYA ANG MAY TONG-PATS ???

abangan...

Across the NATION

Church protests won't work vs coal



By Nestor Burgos Jr. and Carla Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—ENERGY officials and traders are sweeping aside opposition from the Catholic Church and pushing through with building a coal-fired power plant and digging for geothermal power to supply electricity to Panay and Negros islands.

Farmers told climate change drying up their irrigation

Gov't awash with P80-B for loans, say execs

By Carla P. Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

NPAs step up attacks, storm Davao village

[illegible]

Panlilio insists on anti-'jueteng' cop chief

[illegible]



PANLILIO, in his new duty as governor, takes time off for CTS-NBN witness Rodolfo "Jun" Lozada.

Extort group admits bombing

[illegible]

INQUIRER Visayas

Living dangerously with landslides

By Vicente Labro
St. Bernard, Southern Leyte

IRENEA VELASCO COULD STILL vividly recall her ordeal when a massive landslide hit her village of Guinsaugon in St. Bernard in the morning of Feb. 17, 2006.

[illegible]

'Our situation would worsen because of global warming. So, there would be rains ... and many landslides,' the country's leading landslide expert warned



MT. CAN-ABAG as seen from across the river near Barangay Guinsaugon.

[illegible]

Studies

[illegible]

Famous question

[illegible]

Disaster-risk management

[illegible]

'Iceman' son helps Coke melt Magnolia

Alaska's Cone, Air21 feel Sta. Lucia import should be suspended

[illegible]

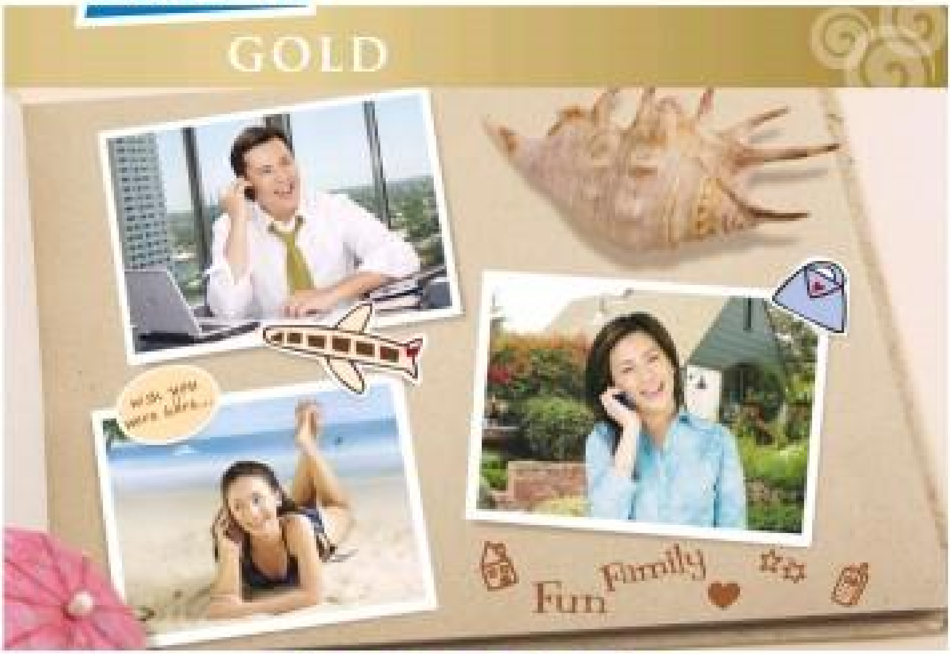


MAGNOLIA'S [illegible] Coke's [illegible]

More Sports on A29 to A34

NEWS


Real Thrills!
Get the reward that's right for you!
BPI Express Credit
VISION EXPRESS
For a cumulative spend of
FREE Freestyle Collection eyeglasses
FREE Freestyle Collection sunglasses
You get a FREE Freestyle Collection sunglasses
BPI


Fun Family

A plus METRO
Editor Bozer C. Dipasupil



WALKING TALL
Men on stilts join other colorful participants in a parade staged by the Makati government yesterday to mark the city's 338th Foundation Day. The parade on Ayala Avenue was one of the activities scheduled for the month-long celebration.

No out-of-court settlement in sight

Calayan patient says he can't be bought

By DJ Yap

THE FILIPINO-AMERICAN patient who claimed popular cosmetic doctor Manuel Calayan botched a penis enlargement procedure turned down an offer to settle out of court yesterday.

"You can't buy me. You don't have enough money to buy me," said Louies Martinez, also known as Lourni Bradford, addressing Calayan. Martinez has filed a P20-million criminal complaint against Calayan and his wife Frances "Flo" Calayan.

Ruling out any chance of an out-of-court settlement, Martinez said he would rather see Calayan in jail. "He offered millions. I don't need them. My family has the money. I'm just doing this to show that not everybody can be bought," he added.

A naturalized American, Martinez said he was born in the Philippines and comes from "a well-off family in Cebu."

"Who knows how many people he (Calayan) has done this to," he said. The patient complained of "sagging, bumping, deformation and lack of erection" as a result of the surgery Calayan performed in his Makati clinic in September last year.

Calayan's lawyer Reggie Ubol did not respond directly to Martinez's statements, saying, "We'll see what the conclusion will be." The doctor is reportedly in the United States.

Ubol added that he could not confirm if anyone indeed offered to settle the case as he was not privy to the discussions.

Another Calayan lawyer, Siegfried Fortun, said earlier that someone from Calayan's clinic approached the complainant to discuss the possibility of an out-of-court settlement. Martinez declined to say how much was offered but his lawyer, Edmeyno Peligro, said it was P10 million.

In his counter-affidavit, Calayan said Martinez was sufficiently warned about the risks of the procedure and given post-operation instructions, such as refraining from sex for a month. He raised the possibility that the patient might not have followed the instructions.

But Martinez said Calayan told him he could have sex after a week. He denied Calayan's statement that he boasted of having three girlfriends.

Martinez said he even had to break up with his fiancée because he did not know "what the future holds."

He said he felt "disgusted" every time he sees his penis. WITH AAA

Parents of boy in drowning case face probers

By Tina G. Santos

POLICE BROUGHT IN YESTERDAY FOR questioning the parents of the 3-year-old polio-stricken boy who drowned in a Quiapo creek Wednesday afternoon.

Nena Valle and Joel Pineda were taken to the Manila Police District Barbosa police community precinct in Quiapo.

Chief Insp. Dominador Arevalo, head of the MPD homicide division, said the two could not be considered suspects yet without a witness to link them directly to the death of Joselito who was found floating on the Estero de San Miguel in Quiapo.

"We just invited them for questioning to shed light on the incident," Arevalo said.

Neighbors claimed that a few hours before the body was discovered, the couple was heard quarreling, apparently because of the boy.

"We're wondering how he got to the creek when he can't even walk," a neighbor said. The victim was actually staying with his father, Rodrigo Quinonbay, but was "borrowed" by Valle a few days before the incident.

An autopsy report showed that although the victim drowned he appeared to have sustained a head wound that could have been caused by a blunt object.

But the parents denied having anything to do with the boy's death. They said the victim had disappeared while they were asleep on Saturday. But witnesses claimed they saw the boy with Valle and Pineda a day before his body was found.

6 hurt in farmers' protest in QC

PNP reviewing all property contracts for police camps

GMA's interest in smuggled shipment

ON TARGET
Ramon Tulfo



Taguig officials check safety of school buildings

No out-of-court settlement in sight


Lucida-DS®
Skin smoothener
Anti ageing
Immune booster
Detoxifier
Lucida-DS
www.lucida-ds.com
mercury drug
Thank you for making us No. 1!!!

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Deadly battles erupt as Lebanon cracks down on Hezbollah

BEIRUT – DEADLY COMBAT ERUPTED in Beirut on Thursday after Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah charged that a Lebanese government crackdown on his group was tantamount to a "declaration of war," raising fears of a full-blown sectarian conflict.

AFP



Overlooked in food crisis: Soils deteriorating

Putin approved as PM

Gunmen assassinate Mexico's chief cop

High fuel cost prompts rise in US plane tickets

Editor Lawrence B. Bueno

The WORLD

N. Korea opens documents on nuke programs

WASHINGTON—NORTH KOREA HAS TURNED over to the United States 18,000 pages of documents related to its plutonium program dating from 1990, in an effort to resolve remaining differences in a pending agreement meant to begin the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, Bush administration officials said on Thursday.

[illegible]

NYT

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ So, Antonio outwit rivals, share Subic chess lead /A32

■ San Antonio staves off 0-3 hole /A33

PBL AMINO CUP SEMIFINALS

Hapee feasts on Burger King; Harbour scores

TARLAC CITY—A FREAK INjury to young star Jervy Cruz was all Hapee seemingly needed to run Burger King off the court.

Zone press

Archer shows door to Kawabata; Andam stays alive



Reyes heads Villar Cup Final 4



Tierro, Guba bomb foes, forge title duel



2 Rizal jins strike gold

San Juan 3-cocker gets going today



Ateneo nears s'finals

Lady Pirates stay in touch with second win

PN's Ladon, on collision course with pal Tipon

Romualdez, Carmona pace BC golf

Yldefonso son wants new Pinoy swim hero

Iggy scrambles to bag 3rd RP Seniors title



So, Antonio ouwit rivals, share Subic chess lead





Batang Alaska Caloocan nets second victory

Eaglets nip Cubs

Puma Cup favorites pull through



World Pyro Olympics on

Kings conduct cage lessons

Donaire foe sick, May 17 fight may be called off

San Antonio staves off 0-3 hole



Henin falls; Ivanovic, Williams advance

Celtics bottle up LeBron, Cavaliers anew





GETTING READY: Lewis Hamilton of McLaren Mercedes negotiates the first curve during practice for Formula One's Turkish Grand Prix in Istanbul.

Garcia takes 2-shot cushion in TPC golf

Federer cuts giant Karlovic down to size



SPORTS



Powerhouse Thais rule AsPac jungolf

Rake in seven of 12 crowns disputed



Stellar field in NCA World Championship



BUSINESS



Global slowdown batters RP exports

RP shipments in decline as US economy turns from bad to worse

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE COUNTRY'S EXPORT EARNINGS DECLINED BY 6.8 PERCENT year-on-year in March, reversing the 10.5-percent growth posted in February, as shipments of electronic products sharply decreased due to the US-led global slowdown.

[illegible]

GLOBAL B2

IN THIS ISSUE

Gokongweis buy GMC snack food brands

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lucas

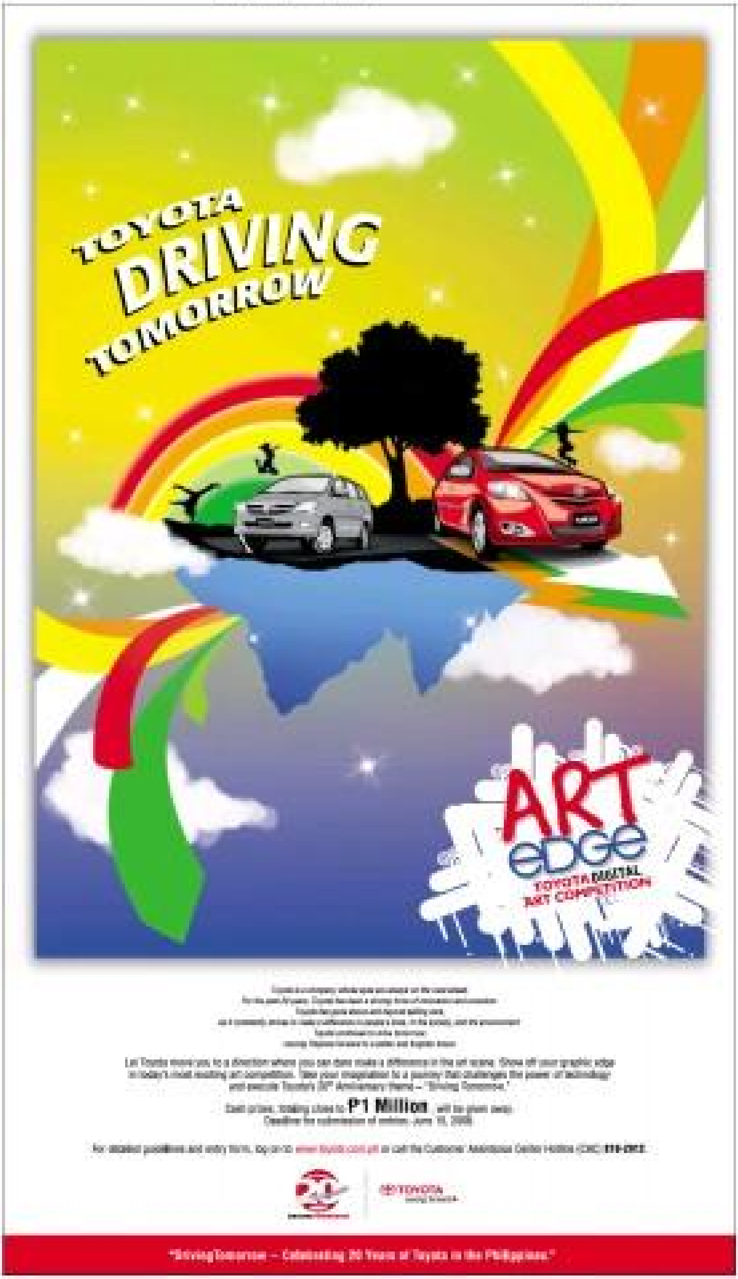
[illegible]





Shares continue to gain

[illegible]



Robinsons ties up with SLC, Taganito for Makati project

Gokongwei group's 2nd on Ayala Ave.

[illegible]



[illegible]

Chinabank to jack up capital to ₱20B

By Doris C. Dumlao

[illegible]

Cruztelco to expand in provinces

By Riza T. Olchondra

[illegible]

Nido Petroleum sees 11.6B barrels in oil potential

By Abigail L. Ho

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

DENR urges public transport sector to switch to LPG

Global . . .

Gokongweis . . .

Shares . . .





BUSINESS

Stronger biofuels push needed, DOE says

By Abigail L. Ho

BDO eyes 13% profit growth this year

By Doris C. Dumlao



TAN

Unmindful of rice crisis, more Pinoys buying Jaguars

By Ronnel W. Domingo

REVERSING ATHEROSCLEROSIS

A better treatment for heart diseases

By Charles E. Buban

WHILE TODAY'S CARdiologists enjoy an impressive array of options to treat their heart patients, it seems the relatively less expensive and uncomplicated regimen to reverse atherosclerosis (narrowing of the arteries) could prove to be the most effective, long-term solution against heart disease. These advanced treatment options include coronary artery bypass surgery, balloon angioplasty and stent implantation, plus many sophisticated high-tech tests.

"It (reversing atherosclerosis) treats the underlying causes of cholesterol accumulation and plaque rupture that blocks blood flow to the heart, which may lead to chest pains, heart attacks and sudden deaths," said cardiologist John Añonuevo of the Philippine General Hospital.

Speaking before the recent 12th joint annual convention of the Philippine Society of Hypertension and the Philippine Lipid and Atherosclerosis Society, Añonuevo presented the new findings of Asteroid (A Study To Evaluate the effect of Rosuvastatin On Intravascular ultrasound-derived coronary atheroma burden) that shows aggressive use of a cholesterol-lowering drug, rosuvastatin (Crestor), significantly reverses atherosclerosis and its potentially fatal risks. [illegible]

A possibility

"It's now a possibility that we finally found the drug that reverses atherosclerosis. Previous studies have established that progress can be delayed and even halted, but regression has never been convincingly demonstrated until the Asteroid," he said.

[illegible]

Cholesterol accumulation

[illegible]

Radiologists of children

CarePlus

Angelo Palmones



[illegible]

Utilizes imaging modalities

[illegible]

'Point person' in radiology

[illegible]

(Angelo Palmones is a science and technology broadcaster. [illegible])

Harbinger

Discover

Maricor Santos Ballon



[illegible]

Climate model developed

[illegible]

Drop in insect population

[illegible]

3D CONTROL OF DIABETES

A new way of looking at diabetes management

[illegible]

Important breakthrough

[illegible]

Well tolerated

[illegible]



FROM LEFT are diabetes experts Doctors Sjoberg Kho and Araceli Panelo and MSD business unit director Dr. Buenvi Tumolo.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Marine scientists dive in search for drugs

By Tessa R. Salazar

PERRY ALIÑO, 50, SPENDS most of his time either in his laboratory at the UP Marine Institute Diliman or with his marine biology and chemical ecology students during school days.

During summer, however, he spends more time outside of the classroom and closer to his objectives. He trades his lab gown for his scuba gear, and with a group of marine scientists, he scours the ocean's shallow coral beds to find potential cures for pain and various infectious diseases.

Perry and his team have mapped out areas in the country they consider as rich "biogeographic regions," covering a wide swath of the country's seas such as the South China, Sulu, Northern Pacific, Southern Pacific and Visayan seas—part of a comprehensive "Pharmaseas" Drug Discovery program.



DIVING for new drug finds, marine scientists [illegible]

Financial boost

Recently, Perry's team received a substantial financial boost as the Department of Science and Technology granted a P128-million fund for the program. He and his group can now dive more often and acquire more sophisticated equipment to aid their research.

The Pharmaseas team involves local scientists and medical doctors as consultants and foreign-based scientists as collaborators. Several institutes in UP Diliman are involved. Other participating institutes are the Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development and the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine.

Underwater cameras

Methodical and precise, the Pharmaseas team—bringing with it video cameras to document every procedure—dive up to 30 feet down to a specific coral bed delineated every 50 meters. There, the scientists peer into every nook and cranny as well as study every living organism they can find. Perry [illegible] the team's observations on a tough-surfaced acrylic board.

Spending countless hours scouring the shallow sea beds, Perry and the rest of the 20-man research group hope to uncover more of the elusive marine denizens' secrets that would eventually yield anti-pain and anti-infective compounds badly needed by a global community searching for new drugs to treat diseases that are becoming resistant to traditional medicines.

The Pharmaseas Program is especially eyeing microorganisms associated with sea sponges and conoid snails. Venomous snails, the scientists explain, hold much hope for pain treatments since they have successfully diversified into more than 12,000 different species.

The specter of the insulin resistance syndrome

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

MEDICAL FILES

ANYONE 45 YEARS OR OLDer should consider getting tested for diabetes. Those who are younger than 45 years should also be tested if they are overweight, and have one or more of the following risk factors:

- Family history of the disease;
- Low high-density lipoprotein (HDL) or good cholesterol and high triglycerides;
- High blood pressure;
- History of gestational diabetes (diabetes during pregnancy) or giving birth to a baby weighing more than 9 pounds.

Insulin resistance underlies some of the deadliest and most costly diseases worldwide, according to Dr. Yehuda Handelsman of the Metabolic Institute of America and one of main organizers of the congress. "An early intervention for prevention is critical," stressed Dr. Handelsman.

Healthy lifestyle

Early intervention requires a lifestyle change, as simple, yet needs a lot of discipline and commitment on those who have the IRS. There is generally a lack of motivation to adhere to a healthy lifestyle early enough because most of these patients have no symptoms. Sadly, even doctors sometimes don't see the urgency if they have a patient who is overweight, with borderline blood pressure and blood sugar, and slightly elevated triglyceride levels in the blood with a low HDL or good cholesterol level.

Many with IRS are not frankly diabetic yet, but they have prediabetes, i.e., blood glucose levels that are higher than normal but not yet in the diabetic range. Most people with prediabetes subsequently develop type 2 diabetes within 10 years, but losing even 5 to 7 percent of their body weight, something like 10 to 15 pounds for someone who weighs 200 pounds, can go a long way in preventing diabetes. The good news is that this will not require strenuous exercise or strict dieting. Even modest changes in their diet and level of physical activity will be good enough to dramatically change one's future health outlook.

If you have the risk factors we mentioned in this article, you owe it to yourself and your family to find out if you have insulin resistance. Ask your family physician to help you find out. This is what being in control of your health and life is all about.



PROPERTY

Editor: Cesar D. Mangawang

FROM CONCEPT TO REALITY

An architect stretches imagination



GUERRERO explains that with proper use of lighting and choice of materials, the shoe store came out as more relaxing.



Text and photos by Charles E. Buban

ASK ARCHITECT DIMKO Guerrero (of Abesamis and Guerrero Architects) why is it so rare for architects to design retail stores and he would explain that most of his colleagues would rather do "serious pursuits" like houses, office and residential buildings as well as parks.

"Stores may be way down on the bottom of the list perhaps because of their prominence if not of the project's size. However, designing stores could really stimulate an architect's creativity like what I have experienced in this recent project I had undertaken," he said.

His recent assignment was doing the store design for [illegible] located in the second level of TriNoma (Triangle North of Manila) in Quezon City.

"Initially, I thought this was a food outlet as the name suggested. But when I read the details and sat with the owners (Primer Group of Companies), I learned that they wanted a shoe store with a restaurant ambience," Guerrero related.

Why restaurant?

So why incorporate a restaurant ambience in a shoe store? Guerrero explained that the challenge of being located in a floor where there are also other shoe stores, is to be able to stand out.

"By incorporating the restaurant idea, [illegible] is able to create a welcoming and fun ambience. The store is not intimidating and we employed warm lighting, terra cotta colors, red and green hues—reminiscent of an Italian restaurant (which the architect used as an inspiration)," he explained.

To complete the ambience, Guerrero even added a couple of tables and chairs so customers could feel more relaxed.

"I believe this is the only shoe store at the moment where one could wait at table as he or she waits for the chosen shoes to be 'served,'" added Guerrero.

Artworks

As for the artworks around the store, the architect teamed up with graphic artist, illustrator and TV celebrity Robert Alejandro.

"The store's design incorporates a variety of materials as well as colors (primarily black and blue shapes) intended to capture a customer's attention. The store here in TriNoma is much smaller compared to the one in Ayala Center Cebu where we were able to simulate a restaurant interior," Alejandro explained.

Indeed, as a store or other establishment that makes it a point to be different, taking the advantage of an architect's services could be a great way to see a project in a different perspective.

"An owner may have an excellent idea. The role of the architect is to process this and come up with solid concepts about this. This is one crucial element in construction that is not thought out most efficiently in a lot of times," Guerrero said.



ARCHITECT Guerrero (left) teamed up with artist Robert Alejandro to come up with a new design concept for a shoe store.

The dangers of burning wood

BURNING WOOD IS NORMALLY associated with cooking, camp fires, bonfires and fireplaces. It is therefore hard to imagine that something as familiar as wood smoke is hazardous to our health.

Burning wood creates significant amounts of fine particle pollution. It contains thousands of chemical substances, including carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, benzene, formaldehyde and dioxin, one of the most toxic substances. Many of the toxins in wood smoke are the same as those found in cigarette smoke. Estimates show that cancer risk from wood smoke may be 12 times greater than from an equal amount of tobacco smoke. And as more scientists learn about particle pollution, the more alarmed they have become.



GREEN ARCHITRENDS

Amado de Jesus

Latest studies show that particle pollution is linked to many health problems such as asthma attacks, respiratory diseases, heart attacks and stroke. It also reduces the body's ability to fight infections. Children are particularly vulnerable, as their lungs are still developing. They are prime targets for bronchitis, respiratory infections and impaired lung development. The smallest particles pose the greatest threats because these microscopic particles can be inhaled deep into the lungs and even enter the blood stream.

It is unfortunate that not enough information about this health threat is being disseminated widely. In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency considers fine particle pollution as the most pressing air quality problem.

Exposure to wood smoke

There are several places where we could be exposed to wood smoke. The most common place is the kitchen in many homes, especially those in the countryside that use wood as fuel for cooking. Badly designed kitchens with inadequate ventilation could increase the risk of exposure to particle pollution. Women and young children who are at home most of the day are the most exposed.

In building construction sites, many workers are also constantly exposed to wood smoke as construction debris made of scrap wood, together with plastics and other toxic materials go up in smoke.

Scrap wood that has been chemically treated or painted is also commonly burned at the site to minimize hauling expenses.

Burning wood in construction sites has an added disadvantage. Walls exposed to smoke tend to stain paint coatings. Painters often complain how often they need to retouch or redo a painting job on walls that have been exposed to smoke especially when scrap wood is used as fuel for cooking.

How can I tell if I am being exposed to harmful wood smoke? If you smell smoke from something burning in your home, you are breathing in particle pollution.

Reducing wood smoke pollution

The first and most important step is to change our attitude toward wood burning. This may not be easy as it has been ingrained in human behavior since man first discovered burning wood in dark caves.

For starters, replacing wood stoves with gas appliances is an available solution. Gas is much more convenient and cleaner.

If you need to burn wood, make sure you burn seasoned hard wood that is clean and dry. Do not burn garbage, plastic, particle board, old furniture, tires, painted or new wood or wood releasing very toxic chemicals.

The degree of harm from wood smoke depends on the concentration of the pollutants in the air. Wood stoves or fireplaces in a densely populated area or neighborhood put people at greater health risk with the accumulated smoke than if it were in a single house in an open field away from other houses.

People are affected by wood smoke when they are very close to the source of smoke or the smoke is not diluted enough with clean air.

Kitchens should be properly ventilated. If there are not enough wall openings, perhaps a solution would be to ensure that there are sufficient exhaust fans and chimneys to flush out the smoke. Reduce pollution further by increasing chimney height and allow plenty of oxygen.

For comments or inquiries, e-mail amadodejesus@gmail.com.



PARTICLE pollution through wood smoke is highest among women and young children who are at home most of the day. Kitchens should be properly ventilated. If there are not enough wall openings, it is advisable to have exhaust fans and chimneys to flush out the smoke.

Ayala Land to promote GE's ecomagination products, technology, services in Nuvali

GE (GENERAL ELECTRIC) AND Ayala Land Inc. recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in line with their development and marketing collaboration to promote GE's ecomagination products, technologies and services in Ayala Land's latest land development project, Nuvali. The project is a 1,700-hectare ecopolis development in both Sta. Rosa and Calamba cities in Laguna.

The MOU signing was presided by Colin Low, GE president for Philippines, Singapore and Cambodia, and Jaime I. Ayala, president and chief executive officer of Ayala Land.

Through this corporate partnership, GE and Ayala Land will work together to promote green buildings and homes in the real estate development project by showcasing green innovations for the community and the home. It promotes GE's comprehensive package of energy-efficient, ecomagination-certified appliances, lighting, water process technologies, advanced building design and real-time energy management systems, among others.

New platform for growth

After close to 120 years of presence in the country, it is GE's first major marketing collaboration with a real estate developer in the Philippines that promotes ecomagination. The MOU with Ayala Land serves as GE's new platform for growth in the Philippines and Southeast Asia to provide the various GE businesses the opportunity to offer and showcase its ecomagination products and technology, while promoting the merit of using energy-efficient, less emissive products in Nuvali.

"This is a breakthrough project for GE in the Philippines and marks our first major partnership with the leading real estate developer in Southeast Asia," Low says. "GE has a long and rich history in the Philippines, boasting over 100 years of business in the country. Through the years, we have been progressing quite remarkably and continue to enjoy the patronage of Filipinos," he says.

"This MOU strengthens our ecomagination initiative in the Philippines, and we are positive that GE and Ayala Land will have significant contributions to the preservation of our environment and the pursuit of better, more energy-efficient ways of building homes and communities," he explains.

'Ecoliving' in Nuvali

"Nuvali will combine the latest green building technology with sustainable urban planning, architecture and construction practices. This partnership which we are proudly forging with GE today is a concrete first step in the realization of this the vision for 'Ecoliving' in Nuvali," Jaime Ayala explains.

The GE ecomagination products that will be featured at Nuvali's Ecoliving Center and green model homes are guaranteed to be energy efficient. GE recently won the Energy Star Partner of the Year "Sustained Excellence" award (for the second consecutive year) for its outstanding contributions in creating high-performance household appliances and lighting products that help reduce energy spending and protect the environment.

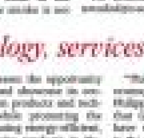
Aside from GE lighting and appliances, Nuvali's Ecoliving Center and green model homes will also feature the GE Media system controls and the GE EcoDashboard which provides historical and real-time electricity and water consumption for better monitoring as well as home automation capabilities, GE Silver MBR technology — a wastewater reuse system utilizing advanced membranes for lower water consumption, and the GE Brilliance Solar system for harvesting energy from the sun, among others.

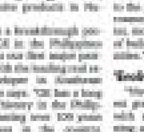


Philtown's SUMMER Open House!

PHILTOWN PROPERTIES welcomed the summer heat with two fun filled Saturdays with THE LEARNING JUNGLE, GLOW UP BABIES, KRISPY KREME, and SUNKIST.

Philtown's the EDGE showroom, located at the Ground Floor of One McKinley Place, greeted summer with arts and crafts activities for children of all ages. Parents and children alike got creative with glue and paper in hand. Guests were treated with Krispy Kreme's famous original glazed doughnuts and SUNKIST refreshing juices to beat the summer heat! As if it was not enough, as an added bonus satisfied guests and clients went home happy with Gift Certificates from GLOW UP BABIES!





Indeed, the openhouse served as a venue for prospective buyers to envision the quality of lifestyle one can have at any of the Philtown projects (One McKinley Place, Fairways Tower, The Metropolitan, W. H. Taft and ARANAA Duplex City), living up to its tagline "Building Masterpieces."

Philtown Properties, known for delivering only quality projects, shared only the best service made for all its friends and supporters. With all year-round activities, clients and friends are assured of only the most excellent personal service unique to Philtown Properties.

To learn more about our projects, please call [illegible] or email us at [illegible]. You may also visit our website at www.philtown.com or visit our EDGE showroom at the Ground Floor of One McKinley Place along Fort Bonifacio, Taguig Avenue in the Bonifacio Global City.

Special Thanks to our Partners:

Sunkist





The new organic movement

Organic forms

Curved forms

DESIGN DIMENSIONS

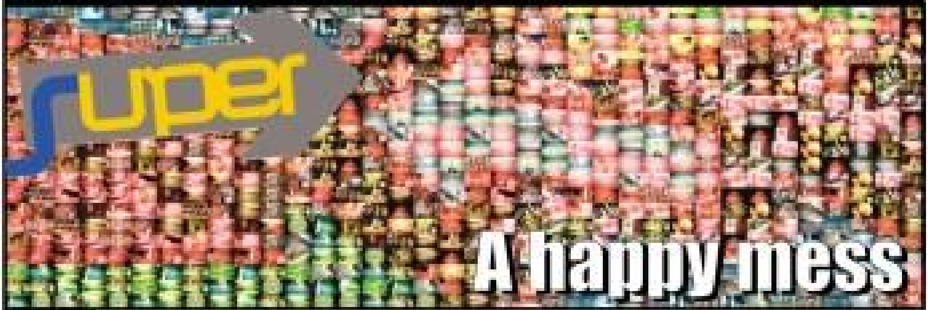


Isabel Berenguer Antonio


Our latest masterpiece. Done.
Philtown, one of the country's leading real estate developers, is proud to announce that Fairways Tower, a 29-storey luxury development at the prestigious crest at Bonifacio Global City, is now ready for occupancy. Nestled in one of the Philippines' foremost urban developments, Fairways Tower is adjacent to the Manila Golf Club and is a few minutes away from the central business and commercial centres of Makati and Ortigas. The finer things in life are now right at your doorstep.
Only a few fully-furnished units are available. Now is your chance to own a piece of this architectural masterpiece.
FAIRWAYS TOWER
For inquiries call 818-2330 / 818-1723 to 24 / 09178536539
or email us at sales.philtown.net or visit www.philtown.net
PHILTOWN

This week Super means **S**eafood · **U**nderstanding · **P**yramid · **E**ngaged · **R**aunchy

CLEAN WITH SUPER



Diapers changed. Clothes washed. Birthdays remembered. Calls made. Dates screened. Tears wiped. Hugs given. Egos boosted. Secrets kept. Hot chocolate. Super loves super moms.

Not just for daddy


CLAMMY Linguini, P237


CRAB and Lobster boil, P1,155


CLAWDADDY'S Pepper Crusted Steak

Take your Mom to Claw Daddy, where the food is good and the servings are big enough for the whole family


GOOD FOOD, big servings

By Pam Pastor

IF YOU THINK CLAWDADDY Clam-house and American Grill is just a place that serves crabs, you're making a big mistake.

Seafood stop


GRILLED Chipotle Apache Chicken


CLAWDADDY'S King Barbecue Caboodle


SMOKED Salmon Salad with Passion Fruit Vinaigrette

Super Selects

Ready for the Reception?


HEARTS on Fire—the Oriental Package

JUNE BRIDES ARE SUPposed to be the happiest brides of them all.



Warfer matter: The Launch of FlashManila (flashmanila.com)
Party perpetrator: DJ Disciple of New York, House of Soul, DJ Benjo Marquez, San Miguel Corp., Smart and Universal Robina Corp.
Crime Scene: Embassy Super Club
Date of Release: March 17, 2007

PEEPS
Flash Forward



FLASHManila's Jojo Lo and [illegible]



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[illegible]



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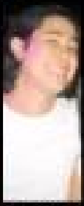
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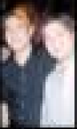
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HOUSE of Soul's DJ [illegible]



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100 Kwentong Peyups

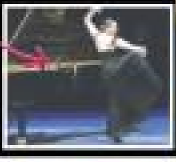
ONE HELL OF A WEEK

It was [illegible]

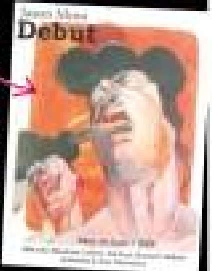


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24/7 SUPER Radar







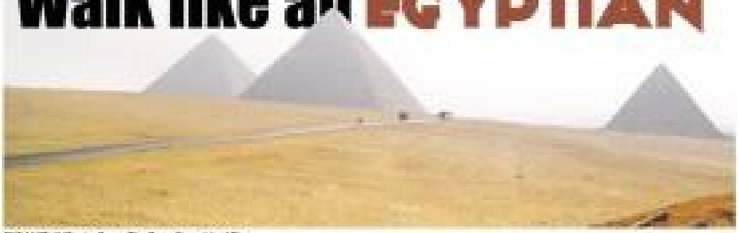


super



PIGGY BANK TRAVELS

Walk like an EGYPTIAN



The Great Pyramids of Giza

Text and photos by Katrina A. Holigores

"YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL STEP!" No, this was not some grammatically incorrect compliment during a romantic date, but rather an attention-drawing yell thrown at me and a friend as we walked through the Khan El Khalili in Cairo.

We were going shopping in the many streets and stalls in that world famous souk and the competition for Egyptian pounds, dollars or euros was pretty fierce. Other lines we heard (and ignored) as we passed were, "I pay you to look only!" and "In here everything costs nothing!"

In the end we got a couple of cool bargains although the word "bargain" takes a whole new meaning in Egypt. Seriously there are no







LAST but certainly not least. Cheops Pyramid.

PIGGY-BANK TRAVELS

Walk like an EGYPTIAN



GET your Sphinx fix here



THE BEST views are on Camel-cam.



WAITING for my four-leg drive ride



TAKE a break from bargaining at the busy Khan El Khalili in Cairo.





CAMEL-COP Heavy security at all tourist spots

4 hours to change the world

"You may say that I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will be as one"

JOHN LENNON'S SONG, IMAGINE, IS SAID to be inspired by his hopes for a more peaceful world, where indeed everyone will get together and be one regardless of borders, differences, and conflict. It's not that difficult when you think about it.

Nokia asks for four hours of your life to realize that if we work together, we can accomplish so many things to make the world a better place to live in.

That life altering four hours will take place on May 10 (May 11 at 2 a.m., Manila time) as Nokia along with the rest of the world will celebrate Pangea Day. Inspired by the 2006 TED Prize wish of Jehane Noujaim, an Egyptian-American documentary film director, Pangea Day hopes to bring the world together by promoting understanding and tolerance through 24 films. These films will be shown in seven languages. Filmmakers answered an open call for films, generating more than 2,500 submissions from more than 100 countries. The visual, curated film showing will be linked via satellite to locations such as Cairo, Riyadh, London, Los Angeles, London, New York, Mumbai, and Rio de Janeiro. The live program will feature powerful films that reflect lives and struggles, music and visionary speakers such as Queen Noor of Jordan and CNN's Christiane Amanpour.

"Nokia's greatest contribution to Pangea Day is the ability of our technology to give a voice to people in the global community" says William Hamilton-Whyte, General Manager, Nokia Philippines. "By integrating the power of wireless technology into Pangea Day, we can help bring together people from around the world."

Witness this one-of-a-kind event. Catch the Pangea Day show online, on cable TV or on your mobile (N-enabled Nokia N77 or Nokia N92 device. Smart myTV's GoChannel will broadcast the show live on May 11, 2 a.m. 4 a.m., with reruns at 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on the same day.

The Pangea Day trailer can be downloaded at http://www.pangeaday.org/trailer.php

Visit www.pangeaday.org.

How to make your family wear sunblock daily

By Annet Mayo

You've heard it a million times. Daily sun protection is essential. The skin-damaging UV rays can cause premature aging, age spots and even the dreaded skin cancer. A few intense sun exposures are not necessarily the culprit. It is the cumulative effect of unprotected sun exposure over a lifetime.

While you have come to accept and embrace this adverse fact, your family hasn't or at least couldn't fully comprehend it. Getting them to understand the importance of sun protection is almost next to impossible, much less getting them to actually put it on.

Heeding the answer to this call, Godiva came up with a revolutionary product that makes daily sun protection for the whole family as easy as wash and wear. You wash it off as you do with your regular face and body wash; however, the sunscreen sticks on to your skin.

Combining the benefits of a gentle face & body wash and a sunscreen, the new Godiva LockWhite Face & Body Wash with stay-on sunscreen saves you from that added step of putting on a separate sunblock. Thanks to the breakthrough technology behind it, the Aquas SPF. Awarded by the Health and Beauty Awards in 2006 as the Best New Technology, Aquas SPF certainly solves a mom's ever-abiding dilemma – and that is how to get her hard-spirited kids and outdoors husband protected from everyday sun exposure.



So, how exactly does a wash-off product give you that much-needed sunscreen? The answer? Easy! Since the skin is negatively charged, you need a product that is positively charged because as you know, opposite charges attract. Conventional sunscreens are negatively charged so they won't work. Godiva LockWhite Face & Body Wash contains positively charged Aquas SPF, making the sunscreen stick and adhere to skin - even after rinsing and drying.

Clinically tested and proven safe by the FDA, Aquas SPF in the new Godiva LockWhite Face & Body Wash gently moisturizes and protects skin with SPF 15 that lasts up to 8 hours. Skin is protected from free radicals and UV Rays that primarily cause premature skin aging.

Infusing sun protection into the family's normal, daily hygiene, this new product certainly makes for a smart choice. With a product such as this, ensuring whole family sun protection has truly never been so easy.

Big love for Mom from Dads





Standing still



Jurassic Park of Digital Fun

Video killed the art star

Pleasure and Pain

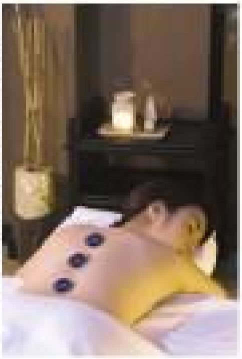




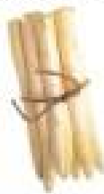
Where to Stop Where to Go

A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

Mother's Day at Marco Polo Davao



Wonders of white asparagus





INDULGENCES FOR MOM AT THE RICHMONDE HOTEL

Royal Mandaya Hotel slashes weekend rates

Baking and dancing classes at Dusit Thani Manila

Spa-tacular mom getaway at Astoria Plaza

Mother's Day treats at InterCon

Provincial Hotels Directory

Capital B for B9 on Bread

Gardenia Classic White Bread and Pandesal lead the way in folate fortification



Tours, Leisure & Chow

Mother's Day celebration at the Century Park Hotel





Choi Express at Emperor Court

Celebrate mom at Waterfront Cebu



Standing still

Flows of nature

From a torch phase to a type face

The Big Pixel





SATURDAY Special



Marian makes mild thespic waves as Dyesebel

By Nestor U. Torre

AT THE END OF THE FIRST week of "Dyesebel" on GMA 7, title role player, Marian Rivera, finally made her first appearance as the siren mermaid. Throughout the second week that's just ended, she firmed up her portrayal, as the new teleserye focused on the developing romantic relationship between Dyesebel and her human lover, Fredo (Dingdong Dantes). As the second week progressed, therefore, we were able to size up Marian's new TV characterization in greater detail.

Challenge





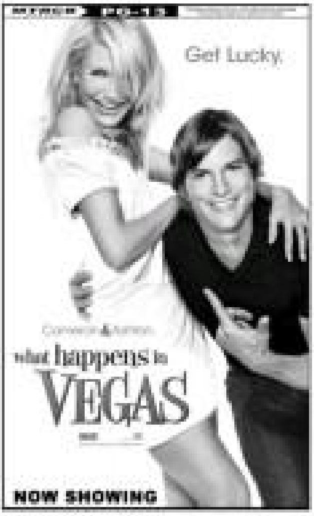


Marian makes mild thespic waves as Dyesebel

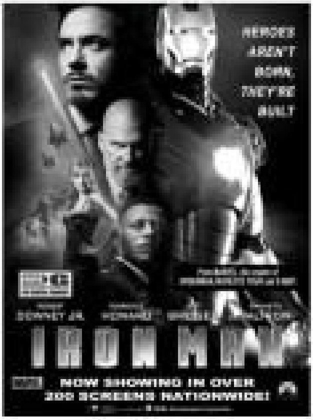


MMTA MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING



"Heroic"



AT THE CINEMAS

AT THE MALLS







BLANDS: Designs with rubber-stamped images as main elements

Eunice's 'Stampin' Ground'

STREET SMART



Mandy Navasero

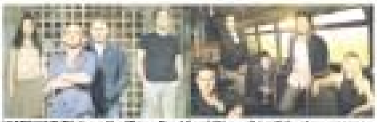
Different designs

FORUM

Readers list inexpensive entertainment options

By Kiko Arevalo

Beauty pageant



WATCHING TV shows like "Prison Break" and "Heroes" is still the cheapest way to get entertained.

Free screenings

Finding your own path

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

Directions

Gabby hobbled by miscasting in his first TV drama



CONCEPCION: Not all the thespic prestidigitation in the world enabled him to submerge his stellar persona to be dramatically believable as a Filipino Everyman.

By Nestor U. Torre

Key question

Script

Possibilities

Sensitivity

A tale of sibling stardom

By Lynn S. Pareja





Dream match

Characteristics

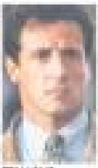
Separate ways

Goal

Assessing the faces of Hollywood stardom through the years



By Bobi Corvaldes



STALLONE

Feet of clay

European beauties

Technology

How Kris deals with . . .



'Megaraoke' unleashes its season

'Enchanting Teens Musical' at EK

Movies on TV

'Science of Babies'

'Greatest Hits of the '80s'

'Power to Unite'



James Blunt returns with radio-friendly songs





High notes

Funny chorus



DAVIS, PARKER, NIXON AND CATTRALL.

'Sex and the City'. . .

How Kris deals. . .

'Designers'



'Sex and the City' star talks about her coming out, breast cancer recovery

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—CYNTHIA Nixon, who is back with those fabulous girls in the big screen version of "Sex and the City," has some serious things to say about her life since their beloved TV series ended in 2004.

How Kris deals with stress and pain

MONTAGE



SATURDAY Special

KC AND RICHARD

'Romeo and Juliet' casting coup delights movie fans

By Nestor U. Torre

ON THE THESPIC LANDSCAPE OF LOCAL show business, a casting drama of positively Shakespearean proportions has been playing itself out, to viewers' chagrin or elation. It all started when KC Concepcion came back from college studies



The OFW Mother

A mother always wants what's best for her family. She is a strong woman who accepts struggles and hardships in order to provide a better life for her family, even if it means working abroad.

Such is the life of Mila dela Cruz, an OFW and a mother of three who took a job in the United States, working as a nurse for several years now. She knew she could make far more money abroad than she could at home, but she also had worries about how this would affect her family. "Sino ba naman ang gustong umalis at mawalay sa pamilya? Kung mayroong opportunity dito, bakit pa ako aalis?" says Mila. But choices should be made. So she made the sacrifice. Mila is working hard 24/7 in a foreign land taking care of other people, alone and away from her family.

Mila is not alone dealing with this kind of experience. Many Filipino homes are now facing a similar scenario. Women, mostly mothers, are now taking on the challenge of working abroad employed as nurses, teachers or domestic helpers.

The situation is far different when the mother leaves the family to take a job abroad. For Mila, her family experienced a prevailing feeling of sadness and a deep longing for their mother to come home. Accompanying this sadness is a need and wish for family togetherness—the desire to be "whole and complete again". Simply hearing a loved one's voice rekindles lost feelings and strongly bonds the family together. It enables the children to constantly stay in touch with their mothers by remembering, frequently feeling and bringing to mind that they are loved.

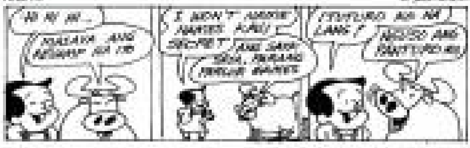
That is why various communication tools are constantly improved and made affordable. Communication virtually brings OFW mothers closer to home. It makes them feel that they are not alone. A simple "hello" comforts them and takes all their worries and troubles away.

Now Mila's family maintains regular, open and strong communication with their OFW mother. They use the telephone to full advantage to help them communicate more frequently and regularly with Mila. It is made even easier and affordable with the use of PLDT Budget Card. Overseas heart-to-heart talks can now be made clearly and affordably - only P3 per minute for calls to the U.S., Canada and Hong Kong.

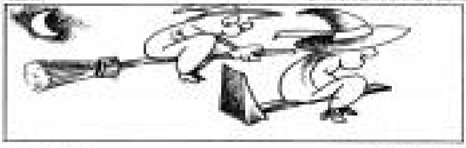
Keep the communication open and cheer up your OFW mother as well this coming Mother's Day with the use of PLDT Budget Card. Because your Mother's Day greeting will surely make her feel closer to you.



A. LIPIN



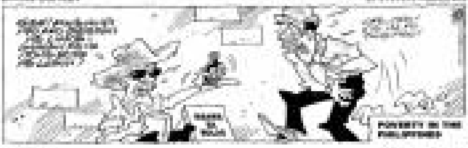
TULDOK



PUGAD BABOY BY PM JUNIOR



DIVINE COMEDY

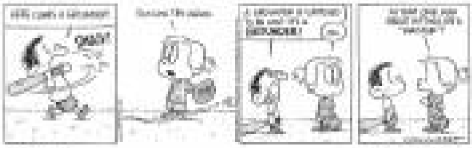


GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS



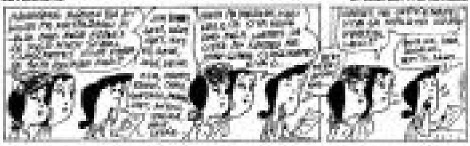


BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT





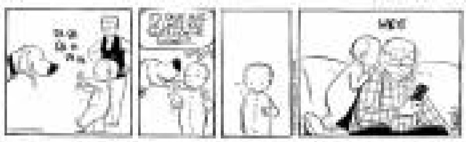
LOVENOTS



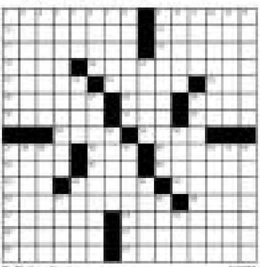
KIKO MACHINE

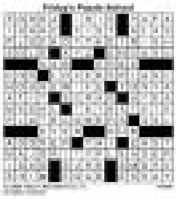


BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	1		5	2				6
	9				4		7	
		3						
		1			7			
		2		3		4		
			4			1		
						3		
	5		7				2	
9				4	3		6	

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

8	2	4	6	9	3	1	5	7
1	6	3	5	2	7	4	9	8
9	7	5	8	4	1	2	6	3
3	5	9	2	7	8	6	1	4
4	8	2	1	5	6	3	7	9
7	1	6	9	3	4	8	2	5
5	9	1	4	8	2	7	3	6
6	4	7	3	1	5	9	8	2
2	3	8	7	6	9	5	4	1

'Romeo and Juliet' casting . . .

From page G1

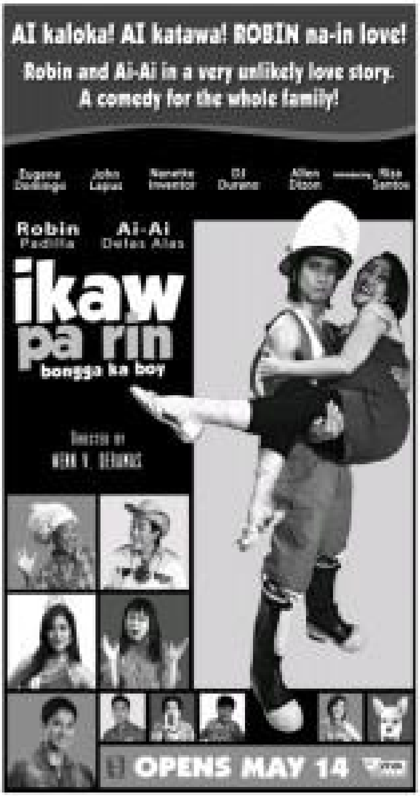
Prospects

Handlers

Ice-cold relationship

Judy Ann shines in refreshing . . .

From page G4







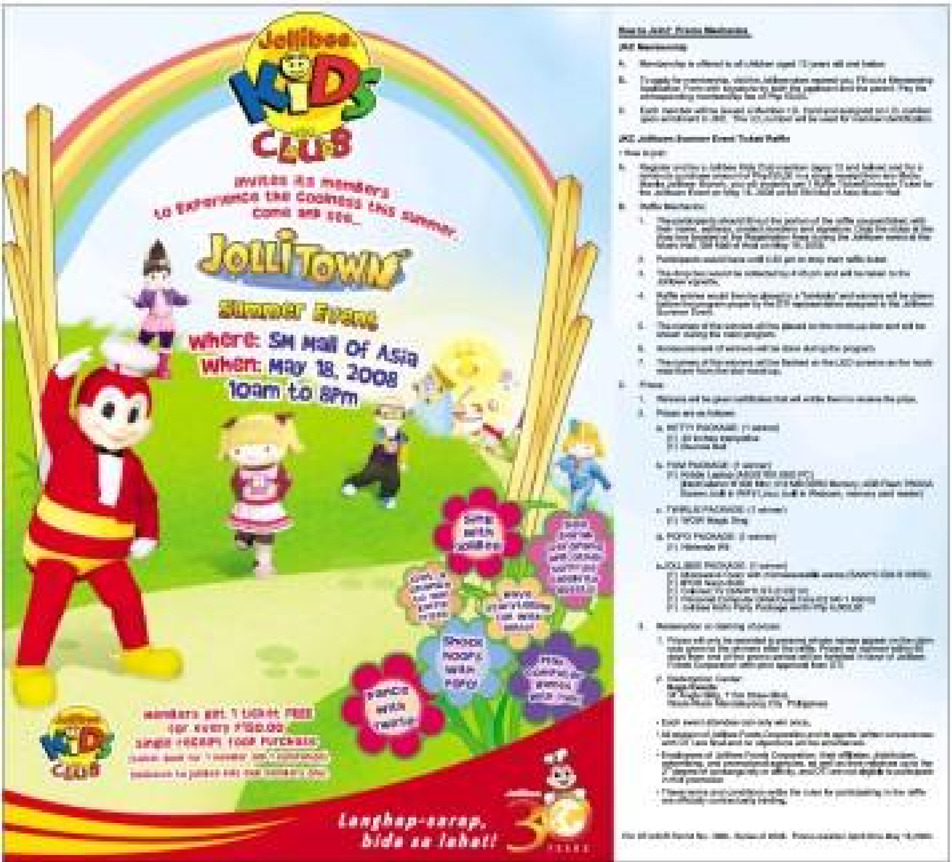
Judy Ann shines in refreshing but flawed drama

Mysterious woman



SANTOS. Plays a woman with a dark secret in "Ploning."

Impressive cast





By Rito P. Asilo

"Iron Man"

D: Jon Favreau

S: Robert Downey Jr, Gwyneth Paltrow, Terrence Howard and Jeff Bridges

MOVE OVER, BRUCE WAYNE. Playboy billionaire Tony Stark, the engineering wunderkind from MIT, has arrived—and, despite some personal demons (both his parents perished in a violent accident), he doesn't brood as much.

In fact, with the brilliantly quick-witted Robert Downey Jr. inside Iron Man's gold-and-red titanium alloy protected armor, Hollywood's latest "unaffected" superhero wears his heart on his metallic sleeve—with a great sense of humor to boot.

In director Jon Favreau's screen version of the comic-book hero, Stark Industries' easygoing heir finds himself held captive in the Afghan desert for three months by terrorists who are eyeing world domination—with the help of the 2nd-dec missile they order their hostage captive to make!

Victimized by the very weapons he himself created, the irony isn't lost on Tony—and something else to him. His own science and his heart—which have literally become vulnerable to the commercial shrapnel lodged in his body, sustained only by a chest plant that acts as a cardiac regulator.

However, instead of making the missile, Stark creates Mk armor that becomes key to his escape—and the inspiration for his rebirth, as the invincible Iron Man! But, bigger trouble awaits

DOWNEY A2

Academy gears up for 25th Luna Awards

By [illegible]

[illegible]



DANTES: Serious about doing good work.

Full support for KBP ruling

[illegible]

'Paying'

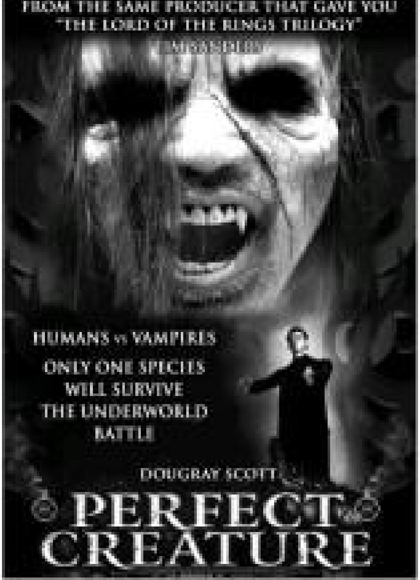
[illegible]

Dingdong Dantes

[illegible]

Downey strikes gold . . . from page

[illegible]





'Buhay' reflects shaky transition for Rivermaya



Marian movies continue to inspire, lift spirits

